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Letter dated 18 June 2012 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, and in response to the letter of 13 June 2012 (A/66/850-S/2012/445) from the Permanent Mission of Qatar to the United Nations, I wish to make the following points.

The Syrian Arab Republic has expressed its commitment to the six-point plan of the United Nations Special Envoy Kofi Annan concerning Syria. It has cooperated transparently and in good faith with the United Nations observer mission and various United Nations agencies. It has also cooperated with Mr. Annan in order to ensure the success of his mission, which was intended to achieve a Syrian-led political solution to the crisis in Syria. The Syrian Arab Republic called on Mr. Annan to promote the principal item of the plan, namely the cessation of violence by all parties. Such action should include prevailing on all States that have influence with the parties of the Syrian armed opposition to cease funding, arming and sheltering the armed groups, and to cease providing them with communication devices that help them to kill. Those States should also refrain from any action that could fan or revive the flames of crisis in the country. Indeed, they should urge the armed opposition to engage with a political solution to the crisis.

The armed terrorist groups that operate in Syria are fundamentally dependent on foreign funding, which is provided by the Governments of certain Member States of this international Organization. Qatar is at the forefront of those States. It is therefore saddening and deplorable that the Permanent Representative of Qatar should insist that the Security Council take punitive measures against Syria. His own country's senior officials have not even taken the trouble to conceal its disruptive intentions. Qatar has openly continued to fund terrorist groups and incite them to spread chaos, violence and death in Syria in order to undermine the Annan plan. Its Government ought rather to desist from its shameful actions, which are costing the lives of thousands of innocent Syrians and destroying many of the achievements of the Syrian people which has, for decades, been building the nation and the citizen.

Qatar's rulers are squandering the wealth and resources of the Qatari people on futile adventurism in Syria and elsewhere. That disruptive approach can be of no benefit to Syria's territorial integrity and national unity, or indeed the peace and security of the region and the world. Nor can the Permanent Representative's letter in any way conceal the fact that Qatar has taken its scheming against Syria to

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considerable lengths, overstepping all of the red lines that govern relations between Arab and world States. Only two days after the adoption of Security Council resolution 2042 (2012), Amir Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani openly made statements that contravened the letter and spirit of the resolution, making patently obvious Qatar's plan to oppose any peaceful solution to the crisis in Syria. On his visit to Rome, the Amir of Qatar expressed a preconceived, premature and unilateral view of the observers' mission, saying, "The Annan plan has no more than a 3 per cent chance of success", and that "the Syrian people needs not peaceful support, but weapons!" Surely that is evidence enough that Qatar is involved in the shedding of Syrian blood?

Qatar's officials have persisted in making disruptive, misleading and inflammatory statements about what is happening in Syria, peddling lies, fabrications and slander through their Salafi media instrument known as Al-Jazeera, which has been spreading Al-Qaida propaganda since its foundation. It is Qatar that cooperated with the other Gulf States to end the Arab observer mission after it became clear to everyone, Arabs and non-Arabs alike, that the mission had done its duty by uncovering the policies of Qatar's rulers, who have continued to fund armed terrorist groups and to support terrorism and the shedding of innocent Syrian blood, taking advantage of legitimate calls for reform and sidestepping the facts.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic strongly rejects those policies, which are inconsistent with the resolutions of the Security Council and the Special Envoy's mission. It calls on the Security Council immediately to fulfil its mandate to bring an end to support for terrorism, which is funded and armed by the Qatari Government with the aim of undermining Mr. Annan's mission and the relevant Security Council resolutions.

I should be grateful if this letter could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Permanent Representative of the
Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations